

WAA Softball



Traveling Player Contract

PURPOSE: Because of parental/player misunderstandings of WAA Softball traveling program general policies, rules, and regulations, it is in the best interest of all involved that a “contract” be drawn up to which all parties show acknowledgement of these policies, rules, and regulations.

- I. As, **parent** and **player**, we ACKNOWLEDGE that the WOODBURY ATHLETIC ASSOCIATION (WAA) policy regarding traveling teams DOES NOT require EQUAL playing time. Fair and reasonable playing time is encouraged.
- II. Because of the higher competitive nature of traveling teams, **players** are required to make a full commitment to attending PRACTICES, GAMES and TOURNAMENTS. This commitment includes doubleheader games twice weekly, practices twice weekly and 4 to 7 or more weekend tournaments per season. Absence for any reason may result in **player** benching. As a **parent**, I agree to schedule my child’s and family’s other activities around the softball schedule.
- III. ANY conduct detrimental to the team or individuals on the team and/or any violation of Minnesota State High School League rules (such as smoking, drinking, fighting, etc.) will present the coach no option but to enforce the disciplinary actions available to him/her. These disciplinary actions can include benching, ineligibility for games, or even removal from the team. It is agreed that under the established guidelines, what the coach deems appropriate will be accepted by both the **player** and **parent**.
- IV. Tryouts will be conducted based on the WAA Softball program’s established evaluation criteria. Participants agree in advance to abide by the results.
- V. Uniforms and/or equipment issued to the **player** by the WAA Softball program are required to be returned in full and in good condition. Participants agree that they will be responsible to replace, at their cost, any equipment that is not returned or is damaged.
- VI. As **players** and **parents**, we will accept constructive criticism from coaches in a POSITIVE way and demonstrate a POSITIVE attitude and RESPECT toward teammates, coaches, opponents and spectators.
- VII. As **players** and **parents**, we will show RESPECT for game officials and their decisions. The officials of any contest are impartial arbitrators who are trained and who perform to the best of their ability. Mistakes by all those involved in the contest are a part of the game. As **player** and **parent** we agree not to rationalize poor or unsuccessful performance or behavior by placing responsibility on an official. As **player** and **parent** we will take total responsibility for our own behavior. We will apply the rule of good sportsmanship and accept, respect and abide by the decisions made by the officials at all times. We commit to making good sportsmanship a top priority and model winning with class and tolerating defeat with dignity.

- VIII. As a **player** I understand and accept my role on the team as a player/competitor, not a coach. As a **parent** I understand and respect the differences between **parental** roles and coaching roles and agree to uphold the authority of officials and coaches who are working with my child and will assist them when possible and use good judgment if I disagree with them. I will inform the coaches of issues and conflicts as soon as they arise.
- IX. As a **player** I agree to apply the concepts, drills and skills I am taught and give 100% in practice and games. I will never just “go through the motions.”
- X. As a **parent** I agree to get involved in my child’s softball education. I will help my child practice outside of scheduled team practice times. I will assist the coach in any way I can with practices, games, tournaments and travel.
- XI. As a **parent** I will focus on performance which can be controlled by the athlete and not on winning or losing, an outcome which is frequently outside the athlete's control. I will positively reinforce improved skills, decrease the pressure to win and avoid making the outcome of the game bigger than life so my child's self-esteem does not become tied to winning or losing. I will make sure my child knows that win or lose; I love her even if I am disappointed with her performance.
- XII. I agree to notify the coach, the WAA Softball Director or the WAA President immediately when I am aware that a serious athletic problem exists within the WAA Softball program.
- XIII. As a **player** I understand that I represent Woodbury, my team, and my coaches. I will enhance our reputation and character with my conduct on and off the field. I will respect and protect the equipment and facilities I practice and play games with whether in Woodbury or outside of Woodbury. I will report any damage that occurs. As a **parent** I will help monitor the areas adjacent to where my child’s team practices and plays games in order to prevent any damage caused by horseplay or unsupervised activity by WAA Softball players.
- XIV. As a **parent** and supporter of the WAA program, I agree to participate in the annual WAA Wildpitch Tournament in May. I understand that I will be required to volunteer up to 10 hours of my time to ensure the success of this fundraiser. I agree to pay \$200 to WAA softball if I am unable to honor this commitment or find an approved replacement for my required hours.

I, as a **player**, UNDERSTAND and ACCEPT these conditions for playing traveling WAA Softball.

Player’s Signature

Date

I, as a **parent**, UNDERSTAND and ACCEPT these conditions for my child playing traveling WAA Softball.

Parent’s Signature

Date